

Date Mailed
September 14, 2001

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Investigation Into Midwest Natural Gas, Inc., Compliance
With Pipeline Safety Rules

3670-GI-102

**NOTICE AND SUMMARY ORDER OF INVESTIGATION
AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

THIS IS AN INVESTIGATION to enforce Wis. Stat. § 196.745 relating to the safe construction and operation of natural gas facilities in this state.

Midwest Natural Gas, Inc. (MNG or utility) is a natural gas public utility as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5). During natural gas pipeline safety inspections conducted by the Commission's duly qualified and appointed pipeline safety engineers of MNG's operations and practices, it came to the safety engineers' attention that MNG may be in violation of pipeline safety code requirements under 49 CFR Parts 191 and 192 and state law adopting such federal regulations, as applicable.

The Commission, upon review and careful consideration of the relevant information gathered by its natural gas pipeline safety engineers of MNG's pipeline distribution system, believes it is reasonable, appropriate, and necessary to exercise its express authority under Wis. Stat. § 196.28 to conduct a summary investigation without a hearing of the utility's books, accounts, practices, and activities at this time.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the utility. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the utility in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

FURTHER, THE COMMISSION ORDERS, under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.02(1), 196.02(6), and 196.28, its natural gas pipeline safety engineers and other Commission staff, upon exercising and showing their authority to do so under Wis. Stat. § 196.02(5), to enter the premises of the utility under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.02(5) and 196.18 and to inspect, copy, and otherwise examine the books, accounts, and records and/or other relevant evidence in the possession of the utility under Wis. Stat. § 196.02(6) and to report back to the Commission forthwith.

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Questions regarding this matter may be directed to docket coordinator natural gas pipeline safety engineer Thomas Stemrich at (608) 266-2800.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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